

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 10/29/2013 4:24:23 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest - 10/29/13

OPA Daily Digest for 10/29/13

Congressional Inquiries:

Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (Mo.) 10/29/13. Recommendation for an EPA position. Due: 11/13/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Deb Fischer (Neb.) 10/29/13. Concerns regarding the process and training of licensed EPA building inspectors. Due: 11/13/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Roy Blunt (Mo.) 9/25/13. Constituent concerns about property that they own considered as an abandoned hazardous waste site. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) 9/23/13. Subcontractor complaints of payments not received for work done for lead removal at North County Schools in St. Francois County. Due: 10/9/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

Gov Sam Brownback (Kan) – 10/23/13: Support for 604B funds to be provided to KDHE. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Gov Dave Heineman (Neb) – 10/23/13: Support for 604B funds to be provided to NDEQ. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Gov Jay Nixon (Mo) – 10/23/13: Support for 604B funds to be provided to MDNR. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Press Inquiries:

KCUR (Kansas City Public Radio) – Matthew Long-Littleton – 10/25/13 – Request for on-air interview regarding Nov. 4 public listening session on exiting power plant emissions. Contact: David Bryan, 7443 (closed)

KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis – Tracy Clemons – 10/29/13 – Questions about West Lake Landfill Site, Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

On Earth Magazine – Kristen French – 10/29/13 – Questions about drought conditions were referred to U.S. Drought Monitor. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

KWQC-TV, Davenport, Iowa – Bailey Deets – 10/29/13 – Questions about impaired waters in Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

KMOV Ch. 4 St. Louis - Local coalition worry clearing method could be risky for Bridgeton residents - 10/28/13 - A new safety concern at the closed landfills in Bridgeton involves radioactive dust. The EPA said there is no risk to the area residents but not everyone is confident it won't become a risk. <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/A-new-safety-concern-at-the-closed-landfills-in-Bridgeton-involves-radioactive-dust-229625951.html>

Chanute Tribune (Kan.) - HBD/Thermoid agrees to \$371,075 settlement - 10/28/13 - HBD/Thermoid Inc. has agreed to pay a \$130,000 civil penalty to settle alleged violations of the Clean Air Act (CAA) at its facility in Chanute. As part of its settlement agreement with EPA Region 7, the company will spend an additional \$241,075 to complete two supplemental environmental projects. http://www.chanute.com/news/article_8d6836b4-4027-11e3-b65d-0019bb30f31a.html

Electric Co-op Today - Co-ops to EPA: Slow Down Carbon Rule – 10/28/13 - Electric cooperatives came out in force to urge the Environmental Protection Agency to be mindful of coal's reliability and affordability when drafting carbon dioxide regulations for existing power plants. <http://www.ect.coop/regulatory-watch/environmental-regulation/electric-co-ops-epa-talk-about-emissions-standards/62719>

Des Moines Register - State touts website on water quality; activists find fault - 10/28/13 - State officials launched a website Monday aimed at improving Iowa's water quality, amid continued calls from the environmental community for tighter regulation to put teeth behind voluntary cleanup efforts. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20131029/NEWS10/310290080/State-touts-website-on-water-quality-activists-find-fault>

Des Moines Register (blog) - Iowa launches water quality website, but Branstad won't promise end to Des Moines' nitrate woes - 10/28/13 - State officials launched a new website Monday aimed at improving the state's water quality, although Gov. Terry Branstad declined to promise that Des Moines residents won't have future problems with nitrates in their drinking water supplies. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2013/10/28/state-officials-launch-website-aimed-at-improving-iowas-water-quality>

Quad-City Times - Branstad unveils website aimed at water quality – 10/28/13 - Gov. Terry Branstad launched a new state website Monday to encourage efforts in reducing water pollution in Iowa. The website, which cost about \$24,000 to build, will provide information to residents around the state as part of a wide-ranging approach to enhancing water quality. http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/branstad-unveils-website-aimed-at-water-quality/article_8948b92e-ad38-5cdd-92b8-6f4fd629dda9.html

Lincoln Journal Star - Sadoff Iron & Metal opens new Air Park operation - 10/28/13 - A new Lincoln scrap recycling plant was engineered for "ease of use" ingress and egress traffic patterns, the company said. The site includes stormwater and environmental compliance features certified by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, security cameras and radiation detection. http://journalstar.com/business/local/sadoff-iron-metal-opens-new-air-park-operation/article_3607a18e-daec-5020-9bdf-894970d04f21.html

Des Moines Register - Renewable Energy Group investing \$20 million to upgrade Mason City plant - 10/28/13 - Ames-based Renewable Energy Group said today it's investing \$20 million to upgrade the Mason City plant it recently purchased to a multi-feedstock facility. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2013/10/28/renewable-energy-group-investing-20-million-to-upgrade-mason-city-plant>

Des Moines Register - Iowa Fertilizer, Southeastern Community College partner on job training - 10/28/13 - Orascom Construction Industries says it's working with Southeastern Community College to provide job training for new workers at the \$1.8 billion fertilizer plant that's now under construction in Lee County. <http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2013/10/28/iowa-fertilizer-southeastern-community-college-partner-on-job-training/article>

Wichita Eagle - Chanute company fined for exceeding pollution limit - 10/28/13 - HBD/Thermoid, which has a manufacturing operation in Chanute, has agreed to pay \$130,000 fine for violations of the Clean Air Act and \$241,075 to make plant improvements to reduce hazardous emissions, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7. <http://www.kansas.com/2013/10/28/3083991/chanute-company-fined-for-exceeding.html>

Brownfield Ag News - Iowa launches 'Clean Water' web site - 10/29/13 - The state of Iowa has launched a new website to help Iowans protect water quality. The web site—CleanWaterIowa.org—is part of the state's nutrient reduction strategy. <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2013/10/29/iowa-launches-clean-water-web-site/>

Associated Press - 2012 drought still impacting Missouri River as Corps of Engineers plans for 2014 management - 10/28/13 - The Army Corps of Engineers expects higher-than-normal runoff in the Missouri River basin next year, but the system of dams along the river will still have minimum flows to recover from drought last year.

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/S/SD_MISSOURI_RIVER_PLAN_IOL-?SITE=ILROR&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT#ixzz2j8oZJL1O

Fox News - Coal-state lawmakers seek to block EPA power plant rules - 10/29/13 - A pair of coal-state lawmakers introduced legislation on Monday that would scale back the Environmental Protection Agency's push to impose carbon dioxide limits on power plants. <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2013/10/29/coal-state-lawmakers-push-to-block-epa-power-plant-rules/?intcmp=latestnews>

Huffington Post - Coal State Lawmakers Introduce Bill To Block EPA Greenhouse Gas Emissions Rules - 10/28/13 - Two coal state lawmakers -- a Republican House member and a Democratic senator -- introduced legislation on Monday that would kneecap Environmental Protection Agency regulation of greenhouse gas pollution from new coal-fired power plants. www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/10/28/coal-epa-emissions_n_4171465.html

Christian Science Monitor - How global warming could boost green energy in an unexpected way (+video) - 10/28/13 - Global warming is expected to make water scarcer in some places, which could mean nuclear and coal power plants, which need a lot of water, could lose out to green energy, a study suggests.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/2013/10/28/How-global-warming-could-boost-green-energy-in-an-unexpected-way-video>

Politico - Polls show energy doesn't spark Americans' interest - 10/28/13 - The U.S. is a rising energy power with soaring oil and gas production and lots of big decisions to make about pipelines, fracking, the future of wind and solar power, and how to tackle climate change. But the public may not be paying much attention.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/10/polls-show-energy-doesnt-spark-americans-interest-98904.html>

The Hill - Voters in 2014 swing states favor EPA carbon rules - 10/28/13 - Voters in swing states are more likely to favor the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed carbon pollution standards for power plants, according to a new poll funded by the League of Conservation Voters. <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/330971-voters-in-2014-swing-states-favor-epa-carbon-rules>

The Hill - Bipartisan duo launch attack on EPA climate rules - 10/28/13 - Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Rep. Ed Whitfield (R-Ky.) are floating legislation to greatly scale back Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) carbon emissions rules for new coal-fired power plants. <http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/331007-bipartisan-duo-launch-attack-on-epa-coal-rules>

Yale Environment 360 - Underground Heat From Cities Could Help Power Them, Study Says - 10/28/13 - The heat generated by urban areas and their buildings, factories, sewers, and transportation systems could be used to power those cities, according to a new study by German and Swiss researchers.

http://e360.yale.edu/digest/underground_heat_from_cities_could_help_power_them_study_says/3987/

Greenwire - Court sets oral argument date for EPA mercury rule case - 10/28/13 - Federal judges Friday scheduled oral arguments for Dec. 10 in a major challenge to U.S. EPA's landmark mercury and air toxics standards. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1059989513/feed>

ClimateWire - Water scarcity may become a critical factor in emissions reduction -- study - 10/29/13 - Carbon dioxide restrictions and water may be on a collision course with power plants. That suggestion came via a Nature Climate Change study this week. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059989565/feed>

ClimateWire - CO2 emissions may be curbed not by policies but by real limits to oil and coal extraction, experts say - 10/29/13 - Even as governments worldwide have largely failed to limit emissions of global warming gases, the decline of fossil fuel production may reduce those emissions significantly, experts said yesterday during a panel discussion at the Geological Society of America meeting. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1059989568/feed>

Midwest Energy News - Study: Electric cars disrupt grid less than expected - 10/29/13 - As electric vehicle sales rev up, there are concerns that more battery-powered and plug-in hybrid cars might disrupt the nation's power grids. But a new report by the Texas-based Pecan Street Research Institute finds there may be little to fear, at least in the near

term. <http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2013/10/29/study-electric-cars-disrupt-grid-less-than-expected/>

Environmental Working Group (blog) - Toxic chemical reform must help, not hinder states and victims' rights - 10/29/13 - In the United States, the framework for safeguarding people and the environment against the dangers of toxic chemicals comprises three mutually reinforcing legal systems: federal regulation, state and federal civil justice systems, and state regulation. <http://www.ewg.org/enviroblog/2013/10/toxic-chemical-reform-must-help-not-hinder-states-and-victims-rights>

Mother Jones - Leaked Documents Reveal the Secret Finances of a Pro-Industry Science Group - 10/29/13 - The American Council on Science and Health bills itself as an independent research and advocacy organization devoted to debunking "junk science." The group defends fracking, BPA, and pesticides. Guess who their funders are. <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2013/10/american-council-science-health-leaked-documents-fundraising>

Forbes - Opinion: Will Supreme Court Review Of Greenhouse Rule Take Air Out Of EPA Regulatory Overreach? - 10/29/13 - What potential consequences will result now that the Supreme Court announced in October that it will review the June 2012 D.C. Circuit of Appeals decision in Coalition for Responsible Regulation v. EPA which upheld four of the agency's main greenhouse gas rulings. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/larrybell/2013/10/29/will-supreme-court-review-of-greenhouse-rule-take-air-out-of-epa-regulatory-overreach/>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

HBD/Thermoid Inc. Agrees to \$371,075 Settlement for Alleged Violations of Clean Air Act at Chanute, Kan., Facility – 10/28/13 – Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

La EPA anuncia fondos de tecnologías verdes innovadoras para estudiantes – 10/28/13 - Contacto: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

11/7/13 – CFC Kick-Off Event, Regional Office. Contact: Becky Dolph, 7281

11/14/13 – National Association of Farm Broadcasting Trade Talk, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/16/13 – Interagency Environmental Leadership Council, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

12/3/13 – SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

DRA:

10/31 –11/1/13 - Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

11/14/13 – National Association of Farm Broadcasting Trade Talk, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

12/9/13 – Region 7 Senior Management Retreat, National Archives at Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

12/19/13 – Four State Directors Meeting, Regional Office, Wendy Lubbe, 7551

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

11/4/13 – Green House Gas Listening Session, Regional Office, Josh Tapp, 7606

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

11/1/13 – EJ Presentation at Children's Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

11/4-5/13 – Green Impact Zone Essential Employability Skills Training, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

12/4 – 12/6/13 – Senior Enforcement Managers Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: DeAndre Singletary, 7373

ENSV

None

PLMG

***11/05/2013** - KC Small Business Networking Event for Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

***11/05/2013** - Small Business Entrepreneurial Graduation Conference, Lee's Summit, Mo. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

***11/05/2013** - American Indian Enterprise Business Council Annual Conference, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

***11/19/2013** - Federal Executive Board and Chamber of Commerce Small Business Planning Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

***11/21/2013** - GovFest Government Business Services Conference, Overland Park, Kan. Contact: Chester Stovall, 7549

RA/OPA

None

SUPR

11/20-22/13: Oversight of pre-construction activities West Lake Landfill, Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

11/20/13: Public availability session to discuss DOD vapor intrusion investigation St. Louis Ordnance Plant, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

WWPD

10/27/13 - Association of State Drinking Water Administrators Annual Conference, Long Beach, Calif. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

10/29/13 - Source Water Protection Workshop, focus on nitrates, Nebraska City, Neb. Contacts: Stephanie Lindberg, 7423, Morris Holmes, 7421

10/31/13 – Iowa Association of Business and Industry speech and panelist, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

11/4-6/13 – Annual Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA) Conference, Minneapolis, Min. Contacts: Glenn Curtis, 7726, Sabre Germano, 7026

11/6/13 – Missouri Water Quality Standards Effluent Regulations Hearing, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Bob Angelo, 7060, John DeLashmit, 7821

11/6-7/13 – Nebraska Water Environment Association (NWEA) workshop, Kearney, Neb. Contact: Glenn Curtis, 7726

11/18/13 - National Capacity Development & Operator Certification Workshop, Atlanta, Ga. Contact: Bob Dunlevy, 7798

Hattie L. Thomas

Acting Director

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